

WHY LEFT AND DEMOCRATIC UNITY ?

The course of the present political developments in the country and the roles played in it by the parliamentary parties, particularly those claiming to be Left, cannot but cause grave concern in the politically conscious section of the people. The bourgeois parties and groups are locked in a severe power struggle. The lust for power tramples even the minimum of democratic norms, morals, scruples and ethics. These parties are now regrouping among themselves, each combine vying with the others to win the parliamentary race ahead.

The severe crisis that has struck at the very root of capitalism has brought in its wake a serious crisis in the bourgeois parties, the Central and different State Governments and the bourgeois administrative apparatus. Instability has gripped the political system and the bourgeois parties are in disarray. Even the coercive organs of the State have been convulsed by revolt in the ranks of the police and the paramilitary. The bourgeoisie, in its bid to come out of the crisis, is trying with a realignment of the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties, pushing the country to a mid-term parliamentary poll. In this way, the ruling capitalist class is trying to shift the burden of the crisis on to the people and inculcate in them the parliamentary illusion by posing the mid-term poll as the way out of the present political crisis.

Not only that. As we pointed out previously, if the instability persists for long and democratic mass movements are not built up to frustrate the bourgeois design, then, by all indications, the possibility of the bourgeoisie falling upon a constitutional

dictatorship, or a military dictatorship even, as the last resort, cannot be ruled out. Such eventualities, needless to say,

This being the country's political situation, today, when the bourgeois parties are busy in power politics and the people are groaning under the mounting capitalist exploitation, when the bourgeoisie is riven weak owing to the acute crisis of capitalism and the splits in the bourgeois parties and is trying to deceive the people by posing the mid-term poll as their way out of the crisis, and when, in

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Condolence Message

On the passing away of Sri Jayprakash Narayan, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee General Secretary, SUCI has said :

"We deeply condole the passing away of Sri Jayprakash Narayan."

After getting the news

of JP's demise Comrade Shankar Singh member of the Central Committee and Secretary, Bihar State Committee, went to his Kadamkuan residence and paid homage on behalf of the Central Committee of our party.

will prove most detrimental to the people's cause.

Besides, the course of events further reveals the danger of increasing activity of some foreign powers, particularly the US imperialism and the Soviet revisionist leadership, in this country. In fact, the bid of the bourgeois parties and their leaders to seek help and support of the two super powers to strengthen their respective positions in the present power struggle has virtually paved the way for these super powers to interfere in the internal affairs of this country.

West Bengal State Committee Proposes to Contest Eleven Constituencies

Calcutta 4th October :

Com. Sukomal Das Gupta Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, SUCI, has in course of a statement, said :

"The West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI has recommended to the Central Committee for approval of its intention to put candidates in the following eleven constituencies of West Bengal

in the ensuing Mid-Term Parliamentary Poll :

1. Jalpaiguri
2. Jangipur
3. Murshidabad
4. Krishnanagar
5. Jaynagar (SC)
6. Mathurapur (SC)
7. Calcutta South
8. Tamluk
9. Midnapore
10. Bankura
11. Birbhum (SC)

W. B. State Committee Condemns Killing of Port Workers

Calcutta 3rd October :

Vehemently condemning the police firing on the Port workers to brutally suppress their legitimate struggle, Com. Sukomal Das Gupta, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, SUCI, in a statement, inter alia, said : 'The reported firing on the striking workers and killing of 4 and severely injuring many more of them, has once again revealed the non-left and anti-struggle character of the 'Left Front' Government of West Bengal led by the CPI(M).

"We demand immediate enquiry into the exemplary punishment to the guilty officers, due compensation to the deceased and wounded. We also call upon the workers in particular and the people in general to raise their voice against the anti-people acts of the Government."

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Assam State Committee on Expulsion of 'FOREIGN NATIONALS'

Comrade Asit Bhattacharya, Secretary, Assam State Committee, SUCI, has, in a statement, said :

We note with deep concern that the reactionary political parties and rabid parochial forces in Assam are carrying on a nefarious propaganda campaign on the issue of preparation of voter lists demanding expulsion of 'foreign nationals', on the plea that their names have found place in the voters' list in large numbers. They are doing this in a manner calculated to foment distrust, intolerance and animosity between different sections of the people of the state. As a result, danger of widespread communal strife has arisen afresh.

It is known to all that the people of the whole country including Assam

are groaning under the grinding wheel of capitalist exploitation. It is also true that the people of Assam had to suffer most, in addition to the basic problems generated by the exploitative capitalist system of our country, from the nefarious design adopted by different bourgeois parties in the name of solving of problem of influx of 'outsiders' to Assam from the neighbouring states and countries before and after independence which actually sowed dissension among the people belonging to different linguistic groups and religions. Besides this, some confused intellectuals helped to further complicate these problems in the name of solving them by disregarding or misinterpreting the lessons of

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Protest Meeting Against Barbarous Killing of Port Workers at Calcutta

A protest meeting was held on 8th October in Calcutta Port area under the auspices of the Calcutta Port Janata Shramik Panchayat in memory of those who were recently killed brutally in firing and lathi charge on striking port workers by the 'Left Front' Government. As an invited speaker, Comrade Fatick Ghosh, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee of UTUC (Lenin Sarani), while remembering the killed workers, observed : The nefarious role of those unions and their leaders who are instigating their supporting workers to

frustrate the strike and attack and kill the striking workers with police help is clear for all to see. While they are in opposition, the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties, through their unions raise slogans supporting the workers' rights and demands and take part in their movements. But, the moment they are in governmental power of the Centre or in states, they suppress democratic movements in the name of maintaining 'law and order' and protecting the 'nation's interest'. The 'Left Front' Government has been doing

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particular, the bourgeois design is fraught with even greater dangers, what does the situation demand of the people, particularly the Left oriented masses?

All those who sincerely want to uphold the people's cause and fight for it must seriously ponder over this question and decide on the correct course.

It is increasingly becoming clear to the people that solution to the basic problems in their life cannot be brought through change of government, which the bourgeoisie is posing to be the solution to the crisis, imposing the mid-term poll from that design. As against this bourgeois politics, clearly enough, the only alternative before the toiling people today is the line of mass and class struggle against the ruling capitalist class, the ruling parties and their anti-people, pro-capitalist policies and measures. In the present complex situation, the essential task before the people is, therefore, to organise and develop legitimate democratic mass movements throughout the country on a distinct Left line and for that purpose to forge the Left and democratic unity among the masses and build up the genuine Left and democratic front to conduct the struggle, as no Left party can singly unite the masses and lead the struggle today. Our party has been striving hard for long and urging all the Left and democratic parties and forces to build up a Left and democratic front as an instrument of struggle on the basis of an agreed minimum common programme and code of conduct. But again and again our call has gone unheeded. Responding to the urgent and historical demand of the present situation, our party has initiated a country wide mass movement and, to further broaden and extend this movement, appealed to all those who sincerely

want to fight for the cause of the people to rise to the occasion and forge a Left democratic alternative to defeat the reactionary, anti-people politics of the bourgeois, communal and parochial parties. The Central Committee of our party, in view of the recent political developments, has appealed to the Left and democratic parties, including the CPI(M)-CPI: ".....We urge upon you to come forward to build up a Left and democratic front as an instrument of struggle, distinctly different from any opportunistic device of parliamentary manoeuvre, based on agreed minimum programme, principle and code of conduct. Obviously, such a front, as an instrument of struggle, will take the challenge of fighting elections in order to further the cause of mass movement".

Against this historic necessity of today, the CPI(M)-CPI etc.—parties claiming themselves to be champions of the people's cause, to be Left, to be Marxist-Leninist—are found to be allying themselves with a combination of bourgeois parties and groups. They are characterising the present power struggle among the bourgeois parties as struggle between the secular and democratic forces on the one hand and the communal and authoritarian forces on the other. In this way, they are drawing a line between the bourgeois parties and painting a particular combination of bourgeois parties and groups—the Lok Dal-Congress (U) combine—as progressive and urging the people to support and co-operate with this bourgeois combine. The CPI(M) has taken the stand: "The C.C. of the CPI(M) has no hesitation to choose, appeal to the people to choose, the formation headed by the Janata (S) and the Congress which has taken an anti-authoritarian and anti-communal

stand..... It would, therefore, be in the interests of the Left movements, the organised movements of the working people, to help this political formation win in the electoral contest and form a government. Such an outcome of the election will be a heavy blow struck simultaneously against authoritarianism and communalism." (People's Democracy, 26.9.79)

Thus, the CPI(M) leadership is identifying authoritarianism and communalism with particular bourgeois parties and forces, and accordingly it is branding the different bourgeois parties—the Congress (I) as authoritarian, the Janata party as communal and, against these, the Lok Dal-Congress (U) as secular and democratic. The CPI(M) has raised the hue and cry that authoritarianism and communism constitute the main danger to the people today and the party would have the people believe that by helping the Lok Dal-Congress (U) combine win the coming elections they can help defeat authoritarianism and communalism. Leaving aside the question whether the Lok Dal, Congress (U), etc. are at all anti-authoritarian and anti-communal, the fundamental point at issue here is whether authoritarianism or communalism are specialities of particular party or parties. Do these not have any class basis? Can defeat of particular parties at polls effect defeat of authoritarianism or communalism? Any one who will analyse the phenomenon of authoritarianism from the Marxist angle will agree that it is a feature of the crisis-ridden capitalism. In other words, authoritarianism is not the speciality of any particular bourgeois party or politician. Whichever party goes to defend the crisis-ridden capitalist system and the capitalist class policies is bound to reveal authoritarian character. That is why not only the

Congress but the Janata Party, too, which took upon itself the task of defending the crisis-ridden capitalism, manifested an authoritarian character. The CPI(M) leadership could not but admit it while taking somersault to shift its alliance from the Janata to Charan Singh's group: "These and other measures (contemplation of the Janata to bring the PD Act back and ordinances against the Reserve Bank employees and withholding payment under the CDS—P. Era) adopted by the Janata Government showed that the government was following in the footsteps of the former authoritarian Congress regime". (People's Democracy, 26.9.79)

But not that the Congress and Janata Government only had to do with the PD Act, their present successor too—the Lok Dal-Congress (U) Government—has brought the PD Act back through an ordinance. Does it not reveal the authoritarian character of this government? How does the CPI(M) leadership explain it? And how will it conceal its real motive for supporting this government which is manifesting its authoritarian tendency so soon after being saddled in power?

Secondly, it leaves no one to doubt, if one examines unbiasedly and rationally, that at its present Phase of acute crisis the bourgeoisie is fostering and fomenting communalism, casteism, parochialism and all sorts of divisive tendencies among the people to obstruct the people's struggle against the capitalist exploitation. Is it not a fact that all the bourgeois parties who are now so vociferous against communalism have their hands stained in blood in the recent riots in the country? Can the Lok Dal and the Congress (U) claim to have clean hands? The essence of the matter, it should be realised, is that in the present phase of

the crisis-ridden capitalism, authoritarian tendency is latent in each and every bourgeois party. This tendency comes in the open whenever a bourgeois party goes to defend the capitalist system at its present stage. Likewise, each and every bourgeois party today, whatever they may say outwardly, harbour communal feelings. For this reason, the fight against authoritarianism and communalism is inalienably linked with the fight against capitalism. It is not a question of only fighting some particular bourgeois party or parties. But has the CPI(M) leadership called upon the people to close their ranks and build up mass struggle against the moribund, reactionary capitalism? On the contrary, it is urging the people to support a particular bourgeois combine to defeat authoritarianism and communalism. Which way is the CPI(M) leadership trying to lead the people and, its own rank and file by adopting this line?

Besides, there is of course the question of the real character of the Lok Dal-Congress (U) combine whom the CPI(M) is now eagerly painting as anti-authoritarian and anti-communal. Only a year back this CPI(M) leadership had branded Charan Singh as a Kulak. The party had commented on Charan Singh's economic programme "The Left and democratic forces should see that the Charan Singh programme of the so-called 'defence of the rural interest against the urban is objectively a programme of the rural gentry'" (People's Democracy, 9.7.78) Now this representative of the rural gentry has turned out a 'progressive' element—another example of the CPI(M) acrobatics. The party is today making all fanfare about Stalin's birth centenary, but has it paid any attention to an elementary teaching of Stalin on this issue? Stalin had observed: "No talk of Marxism, no talk of Leninism, can cover up the thesis that the kulaks are dangerous. The kulaks are

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kulaks, they are dangerous No quotations can obliterate this from the mind of a communist." (Collected works, Vol.7, P. 356) Undeniably, it suits the CPI(M) leadership to carefully avoid this teaching of Stalin, lest it would open the eyes of the rank and file and the masses. Again, who does not know how the architect of this so-called secular party, Rajnarayan, conducts himself in the 'secular' way as evident from his ceremonial bathing in the Ganga after the fall of Morarji Desai's government and his contemplated purification of Rajghat! The amazing history of the CPI(M)'s shift in stand with regard to Indira Gandhi and her party and to the Janata is another subject. We have exposed the duplicity and deception of the CPI(M) on these issues on many previous occasions so we may not again go into it here. But the trickery in the party's arguments to justify its present stand before the left oriented masses and its own rank and file must be exposed. The leadership would have the people believe that their present stand aims at handling the contradiction among the bourgeois parties. This is however, not a new smoke screen for this wily leadership. The undivided CPI had advanced the same plea when it had sided with Nehru against Patel after the Independence. What has been the result of this 'handling of contradiction'? Everybody now realizes that capitalism has consolidated itself in India. At the time of the Congress split in 1969, both the CPI(M) and the CPI had discovered 'progressiveness' and 'forces of democracy' in Indira Gandhi's leadership and had sided with her against the Congress (O). Later, the CPI(M) discovered authoritarianism in Indira Gandhi. It has to be concluded then that their artful 'handling of contradiction' helped turn a 'progressive' bourgeois

force authoritarian. Still later, the CPI(M) extended support to the Janata Party calling it a 'force to restore democracy'. Today the CPI(M) is rending the air calling the Janata an RSS dominated communal party. According to its own logic then the rapid transformation of erstwhile 'progressive' Janata to a 'communal' character is the amazing outcome of the CPI(M)'s 'handling of contradiction'! However there are instances as well to show that CPI(M)'s handling is also capable of transforming a reactionary force into a 'progressive' one. Charan Singh's development is a case in point.

Be that as it may, it must be remembered in this context that to a Marxist the purpose or aim of handling of contradiction is to advance the mass line of struggle and weaken the enemy by acting upon the contradiction within the enemy. The question of tactical handling of contradiction at any stage of development of struggle is not divorced from the strategic line. Therefore, a genuine Marxist-Leninist Party never tries to point as 'progressive' a bourgeois party or group with which it may enter into an alliance, at a particular stage of development of struggle, to strengthen the mass struggle and accentuate the contradiction in the bourgeoisie.

On the other hand, it always tries to educate the people politically to dispel any possible illusion about the bourgeois ally. But the CPI(M)-CPI have both consistently acted in the reverse. They have always pointed the bourgeois parties, even the communal forces, with which they have entered into alliance as progressive simply to justify before the people their politics of exigency. In reality, in the name of handling contradiction, the CPI(M)-CPI have tried to make petty parliamentary gains by entering into opportunistic alliances with bourgeois parties or groups. The outcome has been, always so, that the

bourgeoisie has consolidated its position riding on the CPI(M)-CPI, who, in the process, far from handling the contradiction of the bourgeoisie, have themselves been handled.

On the other side, it is but the people who have had to pay for this opportunism of this CPI(M)-CPI bearing the brunt of the onslaught the bourgeoisie has mounted on them.

In the present situation again, these two parties are pursuing the same old line. The CPI(M) is arguing that "the left and democratic forces are not powerful enough to present an alternative of their own". But will trailing one of the three bourgeois combinations, under whatever pretext, surrendering the mass line of struggle strengthen the left and democratic forces? Will this achieve the left and democratic unity and help build up the genuine left and democratic front? Will this alliance with a bourgeois combine be an instrument of struggle in the hands of the toiling people? The CPI(M) and the CPI are both clamouring for a left and democratic front. But what should be the real object of a genuine left and democratic front? Will the front be an electoral platform for parliamentary manoeuvring or will it be an instrument in the hands of the people to advance the mass line of struggle?

We appeal to the rank and file of the CPI(M)-CPI etc. and the left oriented masses to pause and ponder over this question. What for the left and democratic unity? What line are the leaderships of these parties pursuing? Is it the line of development of sustained and united struggle of the people under the leadership of a genuine left and democratic front to ultimately skip over the present democratic phase of struggle and finally create conditions for developing the revolutionary struggle with the object of overthrowing the exploitative capitalist system and winning emancipation? Or, is it the line of collaboration with the ruling capitalist class, of compro-

Youth Convention

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these pseudo-left and pseudo-Marxists who long before abandoned the path of mass struggle and landed themselves in the safe and secure parliamentary politics.

Noticing the practice of this sort of filthy politics of opportunism, those who are turning their faces away from the politics as such, Comrade Dasgupta urged them not to loose heart and to know the politics of SUCI, the genuine revolutionary party on our soil. It is Comrade Ghosh who taught us that politics is an emotional faculty based on high ethics and culture. Revolutionary politics is more so. It is, therefore, our duty to strengthen the SUCI to give defeat to all these filthy bourgeois politics of opportunism and parliamentary careerism.

Comrade Dasgupta concluded by appealing to the delegates that if they wanted to lead struggle with the definite political objective they would have to develop the struggles on a well-thought out plan and contemplation for a long drawn battle in order to give birth to the real power of the people. And for this, they would have to organise the student and youth committees along with the

people's committees as the real instrument of struggle in schools and colleges in all localities, factories and everywhere else.

In his presidential speech, Sri Dwijendral Sengupta, while congratulating the Democratic Youths Organisation for organising such a mammoth convention to initiate a statewide youth movement, cautioned them for not harbouring any illusion about the 'Left Front' Government.

In this connection he severely criticised the ruthless oppression perpetrated by the 'Left Front' Government on the Dandak refugees of Marichjhanpi and fighting workers of Santaldih. Lamenting over the gradual degeneration of ethics and morality amongst the students and youths he said that the country was actually facing a severe crisis in 'character.' He however expressed his profound satisfaction that DYO was such an organisation of youth which could fulfil that noble task of conducting youth movement in a bigger way on correct political line and democratic norm and behaviour.

The delegate sessions in the morning and in the afternoon on 19th was presided over by Comrade Gopal Kanjilal. To carry out the task of developing massive youth movement throughout the state a youth struggle committee has been elected by the convention with ninety-four members. Comrade Gopal Kanjilal was elected Chairman of the struggle committee.

In the afternoon of the Delegate Session, on 19th September, Comrade Manik Mukherjee, member of the West Bengal State Secretariat of the SUCI delivered a valuable speech on different aspects of the problems of youths' life and on how to develop a protracted youth movement covering the demands on which the convention was organised.

mise between labour and capital, of defending the moribund reactionary capitalism? The bourgeoisie is not sitting idle. It is trying one means after another to free itself from its crisis. There is yet, time to turn to the correct course to build left democratic unity, strengthen and accelerate legitimate democratic mass movements and defeat the bourgeois design. The rank and file of the left parties should set up pressure on their leaderships to ensure that the people's cause is upheld against treachery and deception. They must rise to the occasion, for they too are answerable to the future. Can they afford to ignore what the situation demands of them?

EXPULSION OF 'FOREIGN NATIONALS'

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history. No doubt all this contributed to growth of influence of the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties to the detriment of the genuine interests of the people.

At a time when unity of the common people, irrespective of caste, creed, language or religion, ought to have been protected like the apple of the eye and when united struggle of the toiling millions against all forces defending this exploitative capitalist system was all the more necessary, not only the bourgeois parties but even the so-called left parties have all along been fishing in the troubled water and are at present raising slogans just to fan up narrow sentiments among the people in their bid to utilise the situation in the coming elections. We cannot forget for a moment that almost all those who have already settled in Assam are none but toiling people sharing the weal and woe, the burden of capitalist exploitation, with the Assamese people. Therefore, any attempt to paint them as outsiders, 'foreigners' smacks of a dangerous design to disrupt the struggling unity of the people. Still more dangerous is to paint a rosy picture of providing land and jobs to the 'sons of the soils' by driving out those who are in fact their brethren, forgetting the stark reality that the exploitative capitalist system still exists with all its ever mounting onslaughts on the poor people of the country. We strongly apprehend that these diabolical designs of the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties will, on the one hand, foment fratricidal strifes and conflicts and, on the other, serve the narrow sectarian game of the vested interests and the bid for power of the corrupt political leaders of the state, which they are trying to achieve by misleading to that end the genuine love and concern for the people of Assam

prevalent among a section of the students and intelligentsia.

Everywhere the toiling people eagerly desire advancement of their respective mother tongues but at the same time, unless instigated by the bourgeoisie they have no interest in undermining the language of anyone or imposing their language on others. All language groups of the state agree on the stature of Assamese as the state language. If the legitimate constitutional rights of the linguistic minorities are honoured in the spirit of tolerance and if reliance is placed on the fast-developing united democratic movement of all sections of the toiling people for solution to problems affecting their lives, there is no real ground for apprehension about security, development and evergrowing prosperity and stature of Assamese language being endangered. We earnestly appeal to the Assamese-speaking people to free themselves from bias and blind emotion, take a scientific view of the issues and deeply ponder over this aspect.

While the reactionary parties and rabid parochial forces have been creating one confusion after another to endanger communal peace and harmony, the big left parties like the CPI and the CPI(M) have not only failed in discharging their historical duty of continuously developing ideological-political battle against these anti-people forces, but have even lent indirect support to their activities or tried to appease them. This non-Marxist conduct has substantially helped the so-called champions of Assamese interest, who in reality are rabid provincialists, to gain ground. These parties have paid no heed to the repeated appeals by the SUCI to build a genuine left-democratic unity in order to organise the people against the danger of provincialism and to protect

SECOND PHASE OF MOVEMENT IN ORISSA

The Orissa State Committee of the SUCI in a meeting held on the 16th and 17th September 1979 at Cuttack, after reviewing the first phase of mass movement launched by the party and its mass organisations, which ended with the 7th September's massive mass protest demonstration and mass petition with thousands of signatures

Protest Rally Of AIDS

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Sadhana Das, Comrade Sukla De Chowdhury and Comrade Pradip Mondal went to meet the Chief Minister to submit the memorandum with its six point charter of demands signed by more than fifty thousand students. But the Chief Minister Mr. Jyoti Basu did not meet the deputationists himself. Even Mr. Partha Day, Minister for Primary and Secondary education who met the deputationists on behalf of the cabinet, surpassed even Congress tradition in such matters. Refusing to give a patient hearing or to discuss any demands he curtly dismissed the deputationists. The student marchers returned with the firm resolve to resist these anti-people language and education policies of the 'Left Front' Government and to carry on sustained movement in their respective institutions and all over the State as well.

communal peace and amity.

We have no doubt that all sections of the people of Assam will realise the dangerous outcome of the anti-people attitude and activities of the reactionaries and parochial forces which are contrary to the lessons of history, maintain communal harmony and peace, steel the unity of toiling people and rally round the banner of anti-capitalist revolutionary movements which alone can take them towards solution to problems affecting life and livelihood.

submitted to the Chief Minister and a mass meeting at Bhubaneswar, has decided upon 'Gheraos'

Protest Meeting of Port Workers

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exactly the same. They deny hand in crushing democratic movements, but their police attacks and kills striking workers, the latest instance being this. The reason behind dastardly attacks on democratic movements by the CPI(M)-led Government is that the CPI(M) is today engaged in establishing its credentials to the ruling bourgeoisie as protector of their interest, as faithful caretaker of the capitalist system, in their bid for gradually moving towards governmental power in the states and at the Centre.

Today it is only the UTUC (Lenin Sarani) which stands against this politics of opportunism and betrayal of the working class.

Only when Comrade Subodh Banerjee, the then President, West Bengal State Committee of UTUC (Lenin Sarani) was labour minister in the first U.F. Ministry in West Bengal, was the policy that

and holding of 'dharnas' before district & local authorities as the second phase of the movement.

"the police must not interfere in legitimate democratic mass movements" put into practice for the first and only time in the country.

Comrade Ghosh urged the working class to come forward, unmask these bourgeois, petty-bourgeois pseudo-working class, pseudo-revolutionary parties and to rally round and strengthen the genuine working class party and union to wage struggles towards emancipation.

Comrade Fatick Ghosh, Secretary, UTUC (Lenin Sarani), West Bengal State Committee in a statement on 3.9.79 has severely condemned the police firing and killing and injuring of Port workers and demanded judicial enquiry and has urged the working people to come forward and resist these onslaughts on the working class movements by the 'Left Front' Government of West Bengal.

SUCI Meeting attacked at Dumka

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Birbhum District Committee SUCI, who was to address the meeting as the main speaker arrived there by bus. He was at once surrounded by the hooligans and was brought before the OC. The goondas also robbed him of his diary, money and a few other valuable articles—and all these in presence of the OC.

At about this time a report came that a big procession was coming to the meeting place. At once the police and the goondas rushed with their weapons and attacked the peaceful procession. The attack was so sudden, unexpected and ferocious that more than fifty persons got serious injuries.

At about 7 P.M. the police took Comrades Jiad Ali Baxi, Pranab Lala,

Nirash Dhar, Mihir Routh Jatadhari Saha, Padmalochan Mondal to the police station, hand-cuffed and ropes tied round the waist just like ordinary criminals. All the injured persons were kept confined in the Thana lock-up for three days—17th to 19th September without giving them any food or drinking water.

The whole incident has caused deep resentment among the common people of the locality.

The Santal Pargana District Committee of SUCI has urged the toiling people to come forward, stand resolute and build up mighty movement against the attacks of the jointed arm-money lender-vested interest-police-administration combine. It is their resolute struggle and struggle alone that can pave the way for their emancipation from all sorts of exploitation and oppression.

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